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News Release

Durham Police Department

For Immediate Release: January 23, 2012

Durham Police Department Graduation – February 7

The Durham Police Department will hold graduation ceremonies for the BLET (Basic Law Enforcement Training) Academy #34 at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 7 at Duke Memorial United Methodist Church, 504 West Chapel Hill Street.

The BLET #34 class includes 33 new Durham police officers and two recruits for the UNC-Chapel Hill Police Department.

The new Durham officers include 25 males and eight females. The new officers range in age from 21 to 39 years old. Eighteen have four-year college degrees, two have two-year degrees and 10 more have completed some college courses.

Six of the new Durham officers are from Durham and 10 more are from other places in North Carolina. Six recruits are related to current or former Durham police officers. Seven have served in the military and six of the new recruits are fluent in Spanish.

The recruits have undergone 940.5 hours of academy training, which is 320.5 more hours of training than is required by the state. The additional training hours included instruction in Spanish for Law Enforcement, Verbal Judo and various report writing and intelligence gathering resources. Recruits also received twice the mandated amount of training in firearms and driver training.

After graduation, the new recruits will each be assigned to a Police Training Officer (PTO) for approximately six months.